



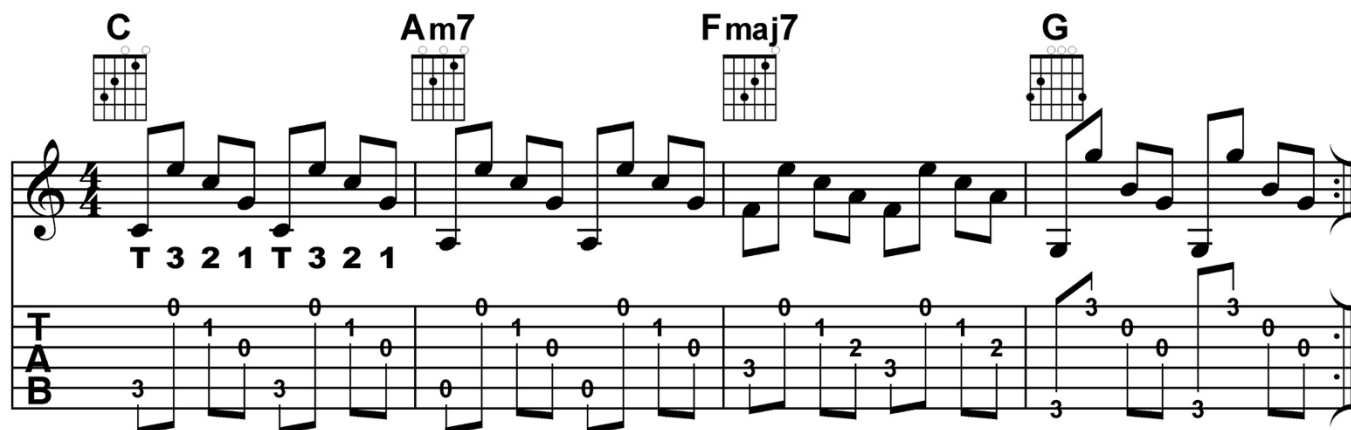
For a guitarist, there are several skills that make up the foundation of their playing. Along with learning chords, practicing finger picking can add a new dimension to your playing.

Before we get into the specifics, here is what everything on the diagrams mean...

- ## The Top 7 Finger Patterns on Guitar

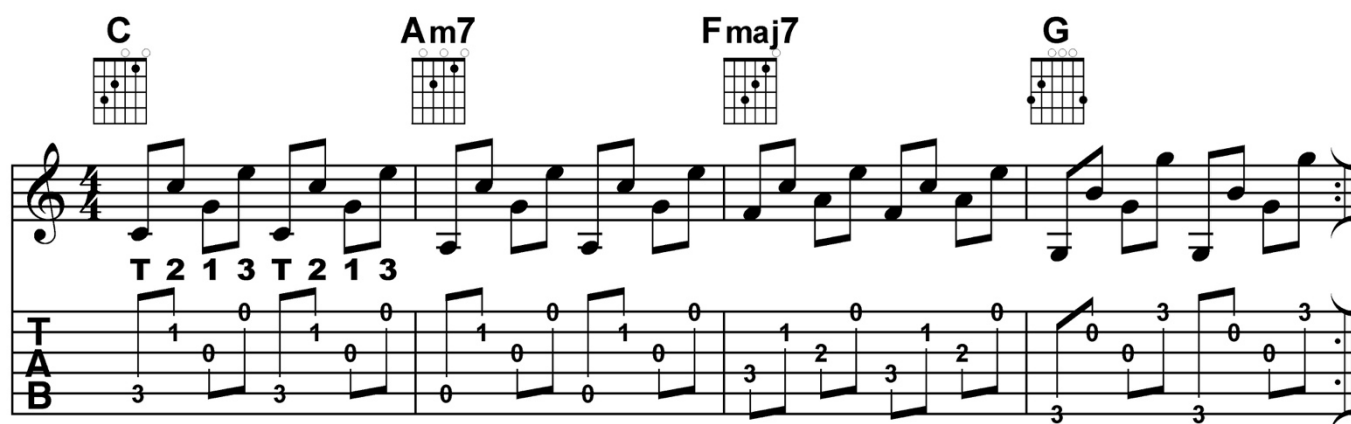
## Pattern 2: T-3-2-1

Practice with the outside strings as shown, then with the inside strings.



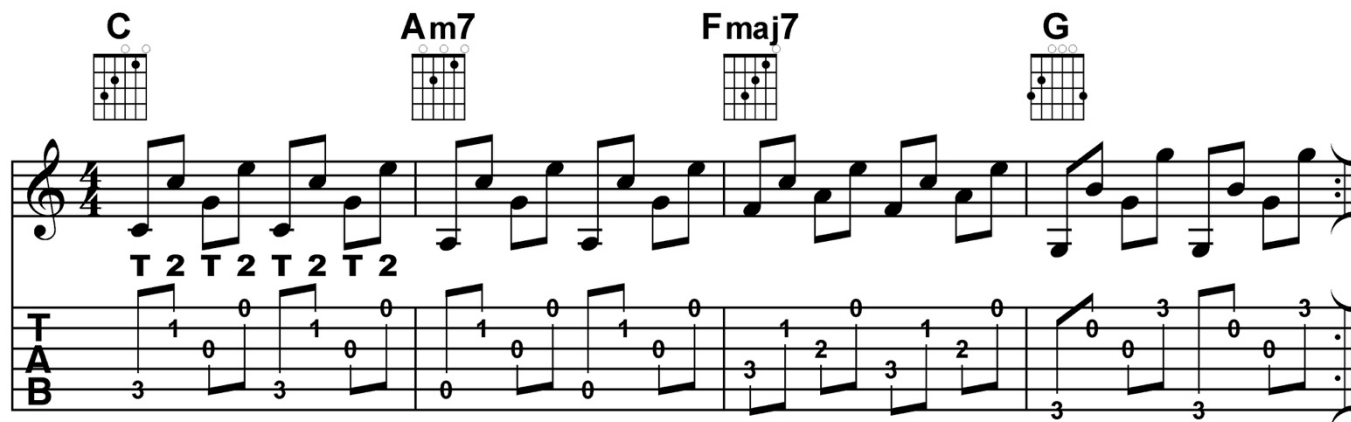
## Pattern 3: T-2-1-3

Practice with the outside strings as shown, then with the inside strings



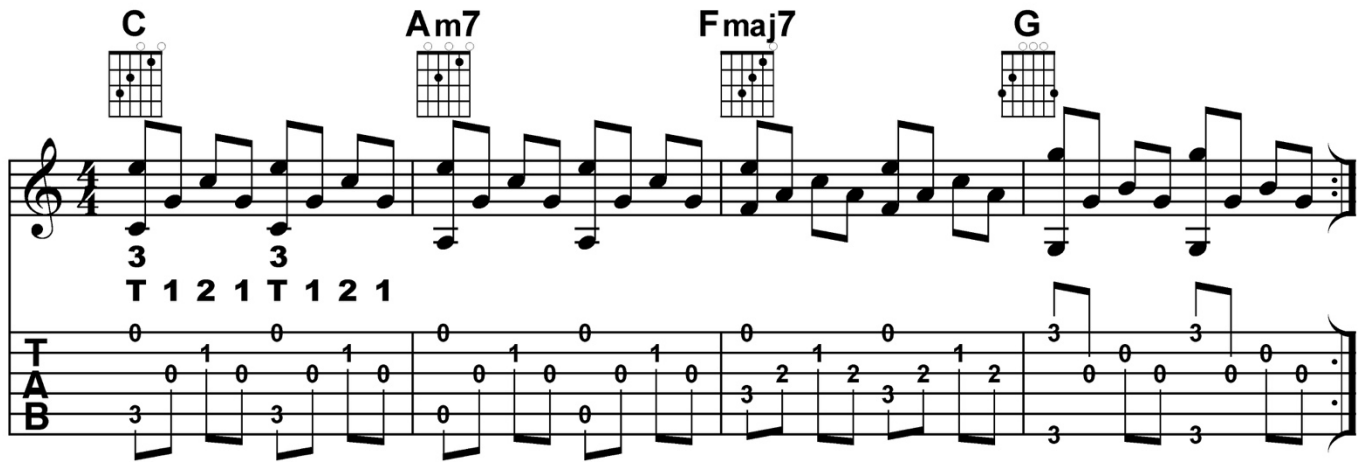
## Pattern 4: T-2-T-2 (Figure 8)

These are the same notes as the previous exercise, but the picking has changed. This pattern uses only the thumb (T) and the middle finger (2). Each finger is covering 2 strings. This pattern creates a rolling “figure 8” motion with the picking hand which can be played quite fast after some practice.



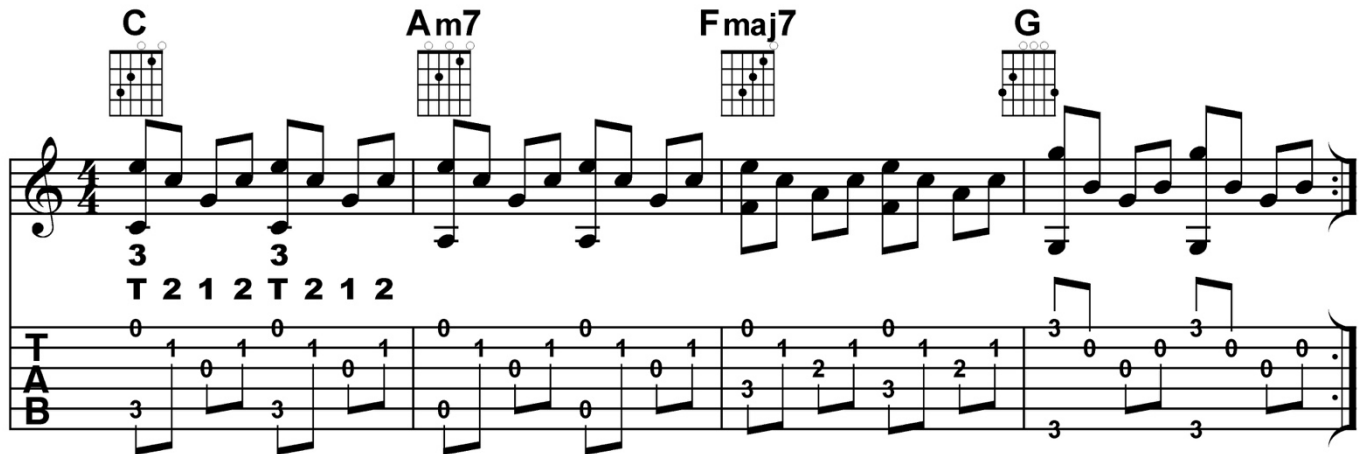
## Pattern 5: T&3-1-2-1

Now, let's add some double notes. Another very useful pattern is to play the lowest and highest strings together, then alternate the inner voices. Practice with the inside and outside voicings.



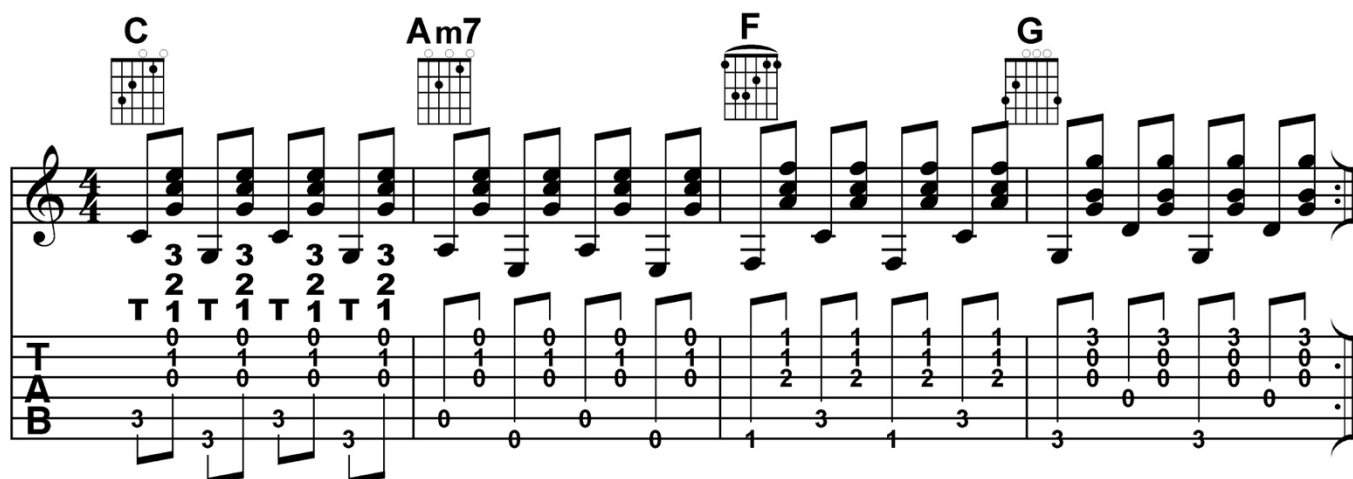
## Pattern 6: T&3-2-1-2

Another variation of the previous pattern is to reverse the alternating notes.

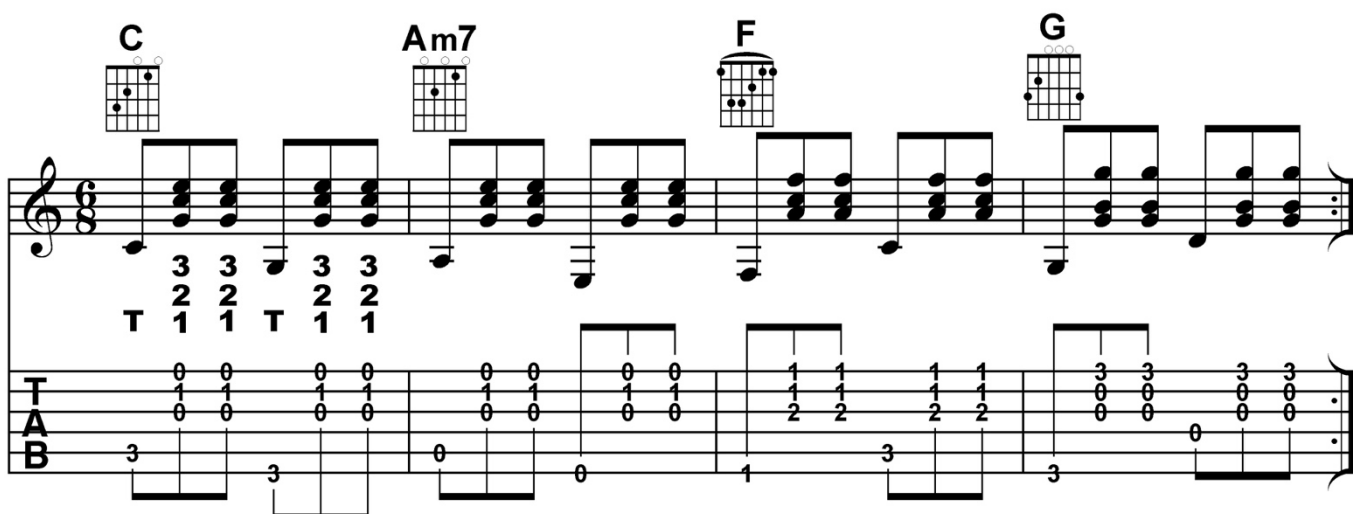


# Pattern 7: T-123 (Alternating Bass)

This Travis Picking pattern alternates the bass note (T) between the root and 5<sup>th</sup> of the chord. Notice how the roots and 5ths switch places when playing through the different chords.



This pattern can also be adjusted to work with measures using 3 beats.



## Closing Thoughts

Playing through each of the patterns by themselves isn't particularly hard. Just practice them slow and carefully making sure that each motion is correct.

Once you can play each pattern smoothly, then apply them to different chord progressions and gradually increase your speed.

Learn all you can! – Steve